



# Trojans pick up gritty win

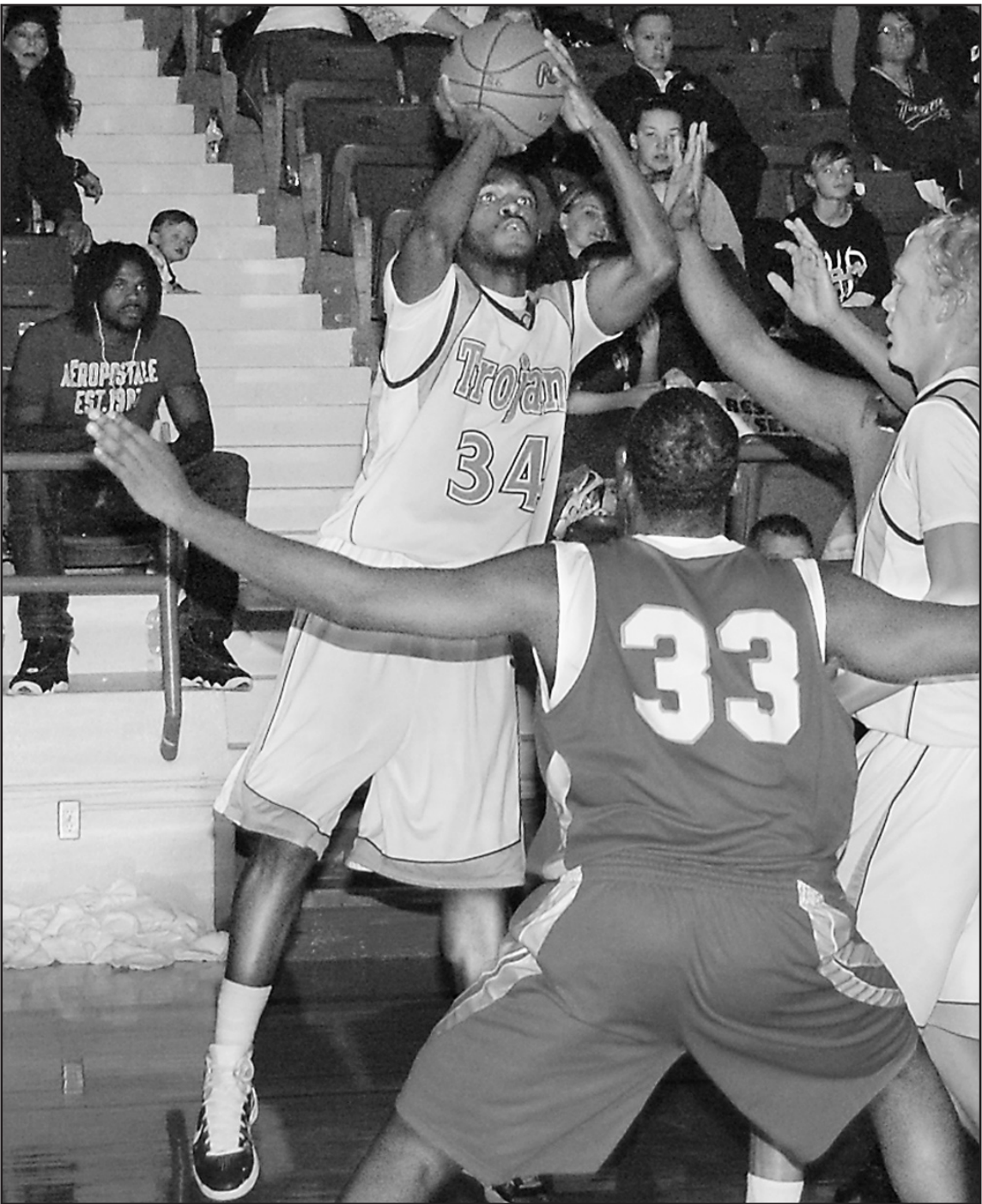
## Men's team fends off McCook

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It looked like the Trojans' men's basketball team was headed for a meltdown in the second half against McCook Community College from Nebraska on Tuesday night at the Community Building. All the signs were there: The Colby College team's miniscule five-point halftime lead transformed into a 58-52 deficit. McCook's sizable fan base was roaring. And all the momentum had shifted to favor the Indians. But the Trojans decided they weren't going to follow the script. They kept their composure, hit some key buckets and pulled out a 78-74 victory. "The way we played at the end of the game was the biggest thing for us," coach Dustin Pfeifer said. "This was a big win for our program."

Freshman Carson Konrade led the team with 18 points, connecting on six of 10 shots and hitting two of three three pointers. "He brings an extreme amount of consistency to our team," Pfeifer said. "It's not just his shooting it's how he plays the game. It's his effort and the way he's always where he's supposed to be." Freshmen Hurley Johnson added 14 points and freshmen A.J. Barber chipped in 13.

In a gutsy performance, sophomore Terrell Bruce scored 10 points while knocking down two of three three pointers. Bruce had to be helped off the court by redshirt sophomore Jose Pena-Benjamin and athletic trainer Kip Nelson late in the first half after bumping knees with one of the Indians' players on a McCook fast break. "Terrell is a tough kid," the coach said. "He's mature and a leader." Sophomore Michael Morris came in for him, making his first appearance since he hurt his ankle during an Ambassador Classic game against Raleigh's Finest Preparatory Academy from Oklahoma City on Nov. 12. Morris grabbed one rebound and committed three fouls in the few minutes he played. Freshman Corey Billingslea had nine points and 10 big rebounds



Colby College sophomore Terrell Bruce took a jump shot during the Trojans' game against McCook Community College from Nebraska on Tuesday at the Community Building.

ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

for the Trojans.

Colby shot 48 percent from the field and made 10 of 19 free throws. Both teams turned the ball over 12 times and McCook out-rebounded the Trojans 33-30. Colby made six of 14 three-pointers. Konrade drilled a three-pointer from the right corner, following a Colby timeout that gave the Trojans a 13-8 lead early in the first half. Colby extended its lead later in the half after Bruce collected a long rebound and drilled a shot from the free-throw line to make it 22-10. Indians' coach Brandon Lenhart was whistled for a technical foul for arguing with a referee during a timeout. McCook mounted a comeback, cutting the Trojans' lead to 26-23. Then Konrade hit a pair of three-pointers that helped

Colby extend its lead to 34-23. The Indians cut that to 38-33 by the end of the half. McCook took control of the game at the start of the second half. The Indians tied the game at 42 after a dunk by McCook's Antonio Dye. They surged ahead 58-52 later in the half. A three-pointer by Konrade cut McCook's lead in half. The Trojans regained the lead when Bruce knocked down a three to make it 62-61. The rest of the game went back and forth. Freshman Hurley Johnson made a finger roll off a fast break that put Colby ahead 69-68. Later on, the Trojans extended their lead to 73-68 after another bucket by Johnson. The Indians' George Pollard cut Colby's lead to two with a three. Jefferson got fouled after catch-

ing a long pass. He knocked down both free throws, giving the Trojans a 75-71 lead. That was cut to one after McCook got an old-fashioned three-point play. Barber took a foul on Colby's next possession, hitting one of two free throws. The Indians turned the ball over at midcourt, which led to a transition layup by Johnson, extending the Trojans' lead to 78-74 seconds before the buzzer sounded. With the win, Colby improved to 6-3. The Trojans will play in the Garden City Thanksgiving Classic this weekend. They play Frank Phillips College from Borger, Texas, on Friday and North Platte Community College from Nebraska on Saturday. Both games start at 3:30 p.m.

# Kansas State star struggles against top rated Duke

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kyrie Irving didn't wait long to make his mark at Duke. The freshman guard scored 17 points and did an outstanding defensive job on preseason All-America Jacob Pullen and the top-ranked Blue Devils beat No. 4 Kansas State 82-68 on Tuesday night to win the O'Reilly Auto Parts CBE Classic. Irving was a heralded recruit coming out of St. Patrick's H.S. in New Jersey and there weren't many who didn't think he would be a star in college before heading to the NBA. Five games into his college career he gave quite a performance in a neutral-site game that certain-

ly wasn't. "I definitely saw a lot of purple shirts in the crowd, so it felt like an away game," Irving said of the game played in the Sprint Center, about two hours from the Kansas State campus. Did that make Irving nervous? "Yeah, to start the game," he said. "I really haven't been in an atmosphere where the whole entire crowd is against me. Most of my games have been at home, so this is my first official road trip. It was a great experience." Duke made sure the sellout crowd of 18,696, was never a factor, taking the lead for good 7½ minutes into the game and then going on to lead by 17 points mid-

way through the second half on the way to their 15th straight win. The win was No. 800 at Duke for Mike Krzyzewski, making him the fifth coach to reach that figure at one school. His overall win total is 873, three behind Adolph Rupp for third place on the career list. "It means I'm at a great school," Krzyzewski said of the milestone. "It has afforded me the chance to recruit great kids. I feel really comfortable coaching at a high caliber and you're much better able to form a team with kids with the good character. We try to develop the good character they bring us." And it was another November win for Duke. The Blue Devils

have won 27 straight games in the 11th month of the year.

# Lady Trojans lose by 20 points

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Turnovers and lack of offensive production helped lead to the Colby College Lady Trojans dropping their sixth consecutive game on Tuesday night at the Community Building. The women committed 22 turnovers and shot only 34 percent in its 67-47 loss against McCook Community College from Nebraska. "We need to be patient with the ball and wait until things open up," freshman Morgan Rickwartz said. Colby Sophomore Hannah Thornton scored a team-high 11 points and grabbed 9 rebounds. Sophomore Liga Vente added nine points and pulled down six boards. Sophomore Taylor Puttergill chipped in eight. While Puttergill was only three of 10 from the field, she knocked down two of three three-pointers. Colby narrowly won the rebounding battle 30-28. The Lady Trojans held McCook to about 32 percent from the field in the first half, but the Lady Indians made 55 percent of their shots in the second half. The Lady Trojans had trouble scoring early, trailing 14-3 seven plus minutes into the game. Then freshman Kelli Crittenden scored on a drive and Thornton

knocked down a short jumper, narrowing the gap to seven. Later in the half, Vente scored after getting good position on her defender inside, cutting the Lady Indians' lead to 18-11. Thornton got a big block on McCook's Alayna White. Sophomore Elina Gutmane rebounded a wild missed shot by Vente and laid it in with a second remaining in the first half, cutting the lead to 29-21. Rickwartz and Crittenden each hit a three and Thornton scored inside in the first part of the second half, but the women were unable to prevent McCook from extending its lead. The Lady Indians led 49-32 with a little less than 10 minutes remaining. Colby was unable to mount a serious comeback and McCook picked up a 67-47 win. With the loss, the Lady Trojans dropped to 2-7. They play Western Nebraska Community College at 5 p.m. Thursday and then play the Nebraska All-Stars at 5 p.m. Friday. The Lady Trojans will play Trinidad State Junior College from Colorado at 1 p.m. Saturday. The team will play in the Western Nebraska Community College Lady Cougars Classic, which runs from Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 9 through 11, at Scottsbluff.

# Seventh-grade teams pick up home victories

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The Colby seventh-grade girls basketball teams both picked up victories over Holcomb on Monday at the Colby Grade School gymnasium. The A-team beat the Lady Longhorns 31-19 and the B-team defeated Holcomb 20-11. Colby's Desi Schippers made two baskets in the second quarter of the A-game and the Lady Eagles led 14-12 at the half. Lara Stephens got a friendly roll on a jumper from the left baseline on Colby's first possession of the half. The Lady Eagles led 18-13 at the end of the third. Stephens passed ahead to Brenly Terrell for a layup early in the fourth. Later on, Stephens blocked a shot, grabbed the ball and drove down court before delivering a bounce pass to Kylee Martin for a layup. Elizza Zerr got a rebound and stuck it back in later in the quar-

ter to make it 31-19 Colby. Neither team scored for the rest of the game and the Lady Eagles picked up the win. Zerr swished a jumper from below the free-throw line, giving Colby a 2-0 lead in the first quarter of the B-team game. The Lady Eagles' Miranda Kern rebounded a missed shot by Ami Ronvelia and scored to make it 4-0. Later on in the second quarter, Julie Schroeder stole the ball at midcourt and took it down the floor for a layup, extending the Lady Eagles' lead to 8-0. Colby's Rachel Browne banked in a short jumper off the backboard a few seconds before the buzzer and Colby led 10-2 at halftime. Andrea Browne drove around her defender at the free-throw line and made a layup in the third, extending Colby's lead to 16-2. Kern made a driving layup in the fourth and the Lady Eagles' MaKayla Hoffman scored on a drive down the left baseline. Colby went on to win the game 20-11.

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